



OPEN MEMORANDUM

MEMO TO: Elected Officials, Civic Leaders, and All Other Butternut Valley Residents

DATE: March 2020

SUBJECT: Effects of COVID-19 on Butternut Valley Residents and Businesses

Board of Directors:

Ed Lentz, Chair
Stacia Norman, Vice-Chair
Bob Thomas, Secretary
Rick O'Keefe, Treasurer
John Braunius, Director
Douglas Ernst, Director
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Alex Wing, Director

Graham Stroh,
Executive Director

Like everyone else, the directors and members of the BVA are struggling to cope with the effects of SARS-COV-2, i.e., the COVID-19 virus. Unfortunately, we have no answers, no solutions, and no particular expertise to offer.

What we do have is an organization composed of Butternut Valley residents who care about the quality of life in the Butternut Valley and who want to help our neighbors and members through this crisis. To that end, we offer our organization as a clearinghouse for information regarding the pandemic and how it is impacting life in the Butternut Valley. We have created a place on our website where we will be posting useful information regarding the COVID-19 virus and its effects on life in the Butternut Valley, e.g., updates on school and business closures, statements by relevant county, state, and federal agencies, announcements by local places of worship and businesses regarding changes in hours, products, or services, etc. We will also be posting such information on our Facebook page.

So, if you have factual information pertaining to the COVID-19 pandemic and how it is affecting us here in the Butternut Valley that you would like valley residents to know about, please let us know. For example, if you are a place of worship or a business that serves the Butternut Valley and if you have changed your business operations because of the pandemic, e.g., temporarily closing or restricting hours of operation or offering new products or services, and you would like valley residents to know about those changes, please let us know and we will post them on our website and on our Facebook page, free of charge. (Of course, the BVA reserves the right to choose whether or not and how to post submissions.)

If you are or know of a person who has a specific need as a result of the pandemic, please let us know that, too. We will try, in confidence, to match up that need with a person, agency, or business that may be able to help.

We hope you share our belief that if we stick together and help each other we will get through this crisis and be a better community because of it. Please join us in practicing and promoting compliance with best practices as recommended by the CDC and the NYS Department of Health and with the restrictions on travel and conducting business placed on us by the Governor's recent Executive Orders.

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Learn about the BVA at:
butternutvalleyalliance.org